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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

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I. 35 USC 102

The Office rejected claims 1, 5, 9, 10, 12, 14 and 16 as being anticipated by Rostoker et al (US 5640399). Those rejections are all overcome by amendments herein.

All of the rejected claims have now been amended to circumvent that shortcoming by reciting in one way or another that the first and second communication protocols are both LAN standards. Rostoker teaches something completely different; a chip that communicates between a LAN protocol and a WAN protocol. That limitation is added directly to claims 1 and 16 (and claims 5, 9, 10, 12, 14 by virtue of their dependency on claim 1).

II. 35 USC 103**A. Rostoker in view of Jundt**

The Office rejected claims 3-4, 6-7, 17-19, 21, 24-25, and 32 as being obvious over Rostoker et al (US 5640399) in view of Jundt et al. (US 6618630). Those rejections are all overcome by amendment of claims as discussed forth above.

Jundt teaches the use of different circuit boards to handle different incoming or outgoing communication protocols. There is no single processor that controls the different communications circuits, and that also handles translation between the different protocols. That limitation of the processor translating between the different communication standards has now been added directly to claims 3, 6, 17, 21, 24, and 32, and to claims 4, 7, 18-19, and 25 by virtue of their dependency on one of the directly amended claims

B. Rostoker in view of Jundt and NetSilicon

The Office rejected claims 13, 20, 23, and 27-29 as being obvious over Rostoker et al (US 5640399) in view of Jundt et al. (US 6618630) and further in view of NetSilicon. Those rejections are all overcome by amendment of claims 1, 16, 21, and 24, respectively, as discussed above.

C. Rostoker in view of Jundt and Gotze

The Office rejected claims 8, 11, 15, 22 and 26 as being obvious over Rostoker et al (US 5640399) in view of Jundt et al. (US 6618630) and further in view of Gotze (US 5491966). The rejections to claims 8, 11, and 15 are overcome by amendment of claim 1 as discussed above, and the rejections to claims 22 and 26 are overcome by amendment of claims 21 and 24 as discussed above.

D. Rostoker in view of Jundt and Net Silicon

The Office rejected claims 30-31 and 33-34 as being obvious over Rostoker et al (US 5640399) in view of Jundt et al. (US 6618630) and further in view of Net Silicon (ET +12). Those rejections are all overcome by amendments that parallel amendment to claim 1, namely by addition of the limitation, "wherein the processor translates between Ethernet and Communications Area Network standards".

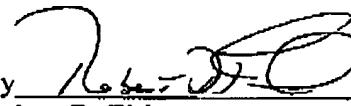
Conclusion

Systems and methods according to the inventive subject matter use: (a) a single chip to communicate under two different LAN protocols; (b) with the communication ports being under the control of the chip's processor; and (c) with that processor providing translation between the different protocols. None of the cited prior art teaches, suggests or motivates that combination.

Request For Allowance

Claims 1 and 3-34 are pending in this application. The applicant requests allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,
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